

Slain hospital worker grieved

By [MICHELLE MARK](#), SUN MEDIA

Grieving co-workers of a beloved Grey Nuns hospital employee who was slain on the weekend remembered her yesterday for her radiant personality and impenetrable grace.

The body of Stephanie Rae Butler, 25, was found Saturday evening in the Mill Woods-area home she shared with her husband Michael and their pet dog, Milo.

Police suspect her death is connected with the savage beating of a cab driver less than a block from the home on Friday night.

An investigation into the near-fatal beating of a cabbie in the same area ended in Butler's brother-in-law facing charges in her death.

Butler had worked in the hospital's human resources office for two years and recently celebrated her promotion from secretary to human resources assistant, her boss Dean Jenzen said yesterday.

"People just loved her smile and loved her laugh and she was just a wonderful person to be around," he said, adding Butler was the first person to greet anyone coming into the HR department.

"She was definitely a lovely, vibrant young woman.

"She was always very happy and had a wonderful sense of humour and always had a positive attitude regardless of how long the day was or how badly it was going."

Jenzen said employees and management from every department of the Grey Nuns flooded into the office yesterday to express their condolences and share their memories of Butler.

"She was always so welcoming and she was a very talented young lady who had the world at her fingertips."

Jenzen added Butler often spoke of her dog Milo, whose pictures she proudly showed around the office.

"I know she loved her husband and loved her dog very much," he said.

As they process the news of her shocking death, co-workers are signing cards of condolence for Butler's family and are collecting donations to go towards honouring her at the hospital.

"We're going to accept donations at this time for a memorial tribute in Stephanie's name, but we're not yet sure of the nature of what it will be," Jenzen said, adding Caritas Health Group is also planning a staff memorial for Butler.

"Stephanie was really down-to-earth, very positive and just a wonderful person.

"She touched a lot of people."

Ken Butler, 24, faces charges of murder, break and enter, and breach of recognizance.

He is expected to be formally charged today.

Two days before the killing, Ken, the brother of Stephanie's husband, had been arrested but was released on \$300 bail and ordered to stay away from the couple's home.

Michael said yesterday that he is launching a petition calling for changes to the justice system, alleging years of harassment at the hands of his brother.

"We couldn't control my brother," he said.

"We tried to help him out but there was no way for us to deal with him."

He also said he's starting a trust fund to build a help centre in his wife's name for people with drug and alcohol problems.

Ken Butler also faces a charge of aggravated assault in relation to the beating of the 61-year-old cab driver who remains in critical condition in hospital.